

BETHEL ISLAND MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES – March 17, 2009

Chairperson Bittner called the regular meeting of the Bethel Island Municipal Advisory Council to order at 6:01 p.m. held at Scout Hall, 3090 Ranch Lane, Bethel Island, California.

Chairperson Bittner announced that the Bethel Island Municipal Advisory Council was an advisory board to the Supervisor only and apologized for agenda mishap last week.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cameron, Graas, Marshall, and Chairperson Bittner.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Stokley.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Graas.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

M/Cameron

S/Marshall

Members Present Approved the Agenda for March 17, 2009 as Submitted. Vote: 4-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES February 10, 2009 and March 10, 2009

M/Cameron

S/Marshall

Members Present Approved the Minutes of February 10, 2009 and March 10, 2009 as submitted. Vote: 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no Public Comments.

REPORTS

1. Office of the Sheriff

Deputy L. Sanchez presented and reviewed the crime report for February, 2009 especially the two assaults with a deadly weapon and two residential robberies.

2. Marine Patrol

Deputy J. Lambert reported on the four stolen boats in February and that night operations are presently being performed. He thanked the residents for taking their advice in regards to seeing 100% improvement of house number signage on the water side and lighting on the docks.

A member of the audience reported a sunken boat on Taylor Road area.

3. California Highway Patrol

There was no California Highway Patrol report.

4. Fire/Public Safety

There was no Fire/Public Safety report.

5. Citizens' Fire Committee

Mark Whitlock reported that they were working on the dry hydrants and should have more information at next month's meeting in regards to the funding. In regards to the hydrants in the downtown area he should have more information by next month also.

A member of the audience asked about the increase of ground squirrels and owls coming from the Delta Coves project area since their habitat has been removed and what can be done. Mr. Whitlock stated that he would note the concern.

DISTRICT V: SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE: Lynn Reichard

Ms. Reichard stated that in regards to the street name changes Public Works was still investigating the 90 percent approval by residents along with a couple of other ideas that were being looked at.

Ms. Reichard reminded the MAC of the Joint MAC meeting on April 11th and requested any agenda items to be forwarded to her.

Ms. Reichard announced that a DWR Public Scoping meeting was set for Monday, March 23 from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm at 730 Third Street, Brentwood. The meeting is seeking input and comments from residents in Contra Costa County in regards to the restoration of the Delta ecosystem and protection of water supplies.

Ms. Reichard reported that since the last meeting Supervisor Glover and the Director of Conservation and Development have met and meetings would be set up involving not only the Conservation & Development Department but also expanding to include other departments, the Supervisor's office and two MAC members. She requested two MAC member volunteers. Council Member Marshall and Cameron volunteered to attend those meeting.

BETHEL ISLAND/DELTA (CHAIR)

Chairperson Bittner announced that Public Works would be the guest speaker for the April 14th meeting regarding an update on the Bethel Island Bridge.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Code Enforcement

There was no Code Enforcement Report.

2. Bethel Island Chamber

Rich Marshall reported that the Chili Cook Off has been rescheduled for Sunday, May 3rd.

A member of the audience asked what the Chamber hours were. Mr. Marshall stated that they are posted on the door but believed they were Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm and Saturdays from 10:00 to 3:00 pm

3. Bethel Island Municipal Improvement District

Bob Cameron announced BIMID will be meeting at 7:00 pm every third Thursday starting with this week's meeting.

David Graas announced that there had been a tabletop exercise held at BIMID involving the different agencies with the scenario of a levee breach by Bethel Harbor, which was very successful and informative. There will be a community preparedness class held on April 7th at 7:00 pm in the BIMID office, please RSVP to the BIMID office.

4. Ad Hoc Park Committee

There was no Ad Hoc Park Committee report.

PERMIT APPLICATIONS

There were no Permit Applications.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

OLD BUSINESS

a. "Bethel Island Area(s) House Number Project"

Councilman Cameron reported that as of last Tuesday 200 signs have been ordered and approximately 150 have been set up. He felt that they were making good progress with approximately 35 to 40 more being ordered every month. He wanted to advise that there would be no increase due to sale tax increases starting April 1st.

Chairperson Bittner stated that funding had been donated to help pay for signs for residents that can't afford them and to contact Councilmember Graas.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairperson Bittner reviewed the correspondence received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Bittner announced there would be a meeting on April 2nd from 6:30 to 8:30 pm regarding the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project. It will be held at Iron House

Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room.

Chairperson Bittner announced that the City of Pittsburg in conjunction with Supervisor Glover would be holding the 5th Annual Contra Costa County Youth Summit on April 25th from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm held at Los Medanos College.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

1. FOLLOW UP CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Gano Thomas, Conservation & Development Department-East County Building Office, informed the audience that they have contacted and provided the information to the seven residents that had requested contact after the February 10th meeting and out of the seven two cases have been closed there are currently twenty-three cases active.

Member of the audience stated after the last meeting that a CD was given to Mr. Crapo, they did receive a call back from Mr. Crapo stating that he was still looking into the information and then a couple days later they received an abatement notice. They wanted to know how that was working with the residents.

Member of the audience asked that the Building Inspector was seen riding along with Marine Patrol and wondered if that was legal. Mr. Thomas stated that they have been requested by BIMID and their supervisors to survey structures built into the levees and identify those properties. He stated that ninety percent of the cases have been complaint-driven only about ten percent have been what residents consider drive by.

Chairperson Bittner stated that Council Member Stokley and she have been meeting with the Conservation & Development Department supervisors and at the end of the last meeting staff was instructed to do an inventory of homes built over the water. She stated that there seems to be a lot of miscommunication resulting in Supervisor Glover setting up these upcoming meetings.

Member of the audience stated that BIMID has changed and the present board is not looking at abatement and restated from the last meeting that BIMID would not allow ride-alongs with the Building Department.

Councilmember Cameron gave a summary of the past BIMID needs in regards to FEMA regulations and BIMID's resolution to those regulations.

Deputy Lambert cleared the issue of trespassing via the water by riding along with Marine Patrol.

2. NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Pat Crumm, Neighborhood Preservation Program, stated that program has been in operation for the past 34 years to help in health and safety code improvements.

Mr. Crumm stated that there are two loan programs one of which is for owner occupied homes with at least \$40,000 equity in their homes with a zero percent interest, no monthly payments for five years to help make repairs to their homes.

The second program is for low-income owner occupied homes with three percent interest and monthly payments after 15 years again to help make repairs to those homes.

Ms. Crumm also presented and gave a brief summary on the Weatherization Program that is offered to both low-income homeowners and tenants for such things as windows, appliances, etc.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no Public Comments.

ADJOURMENT

There being no further business before the Bethel Island Municipal Advisory Council, Chairperson Bittner adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m. to the next regular scheduled Municipal Advisory Council meeting on April 14, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. to be held at the Scout Hall at 3090 Ranch Lane.

Submitted by,

Lynn Reichard
Reporting Secretary